Mr. Jack Straw, who stated in the House of Commons on 10th June, 2002 that Kashmir is "at root a bilateral matter which can only be resolved by direct dialogue between the parties". The British Government has also acknowledged and commented negatively on the infiltration of armed terrorists across the Line of Control into India from the Pakistani side and has accepted that there is clear link between the ISI and terrorist groups operating across the LOC.

India will continue to sensitize the British Government regarding its concerns on this matter. Government's position that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India is also known to the British.

Test fire of Ghauri missile by Pakistan

944. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan test-fired its hatf-V-"Ghauri" missile on May 25, 2002, and conducted a series of short and medium range missile tests between May 25 to 28, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the missiles tested and the success achieved therein; and

(c) the reaction of Government, US, Russia and other world powers thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Between 25-28 May, 2002, Pakistan conducted the following 3 tests of surface-to-surface ballistic missiles:

Date	Missile	Claimed Range
25 May	Medium range Hatf V (Ghauri)	1500 Km
26 May	Short Range Hatf III (Ghaznavi)	290 Km
28 May	Short range Hatf II (Abdali)	180 Km

While the exact ranges achieved in these tests have not been specified, Pakistan has claimed that all the missiles impacted accurately and all design parameters have been validated.

(c) All major countries, including the USA and Russia, criticised these tests and stated that they would aggravate the situation in the region rather than defuse tensions. Government stated that "India is not particularly impressed by these missile antics, clearly targeted at the domestic audience in Pakistan".

Removal of restriction imposed on entry of Pakistani aircrafts

†945. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to remove restriction imposed on entry of Pakistani aircrafts into the Indian air space by amending its foreign policy with regard to Pakistan:

(b) if so, whether the decision to remove the restriction has been taken due to America's pressure:

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if not, the reasons for removing the said restriction together with Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) Pakistan President General Musharraf had committed on May 27 and June 6 to end cross-border infiltration and on a permanent basis. On June 10, in recognition of this commitment, Government of India had announced the removal of restrictions on over-flights by Pakistani aircraft that had been in place since January 2002, following the attack on our Parliament.

Meeting between India and European Union

946. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an official level meeting as held in New Delhi between India and European Union on May 1, 2002 to review the relations; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far to improve relations with the European Union?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.